

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-01 USIA-06

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DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE:CFE

APPROVED BY S/S: REWOODS

NEA:SSOBER

P:MR. SISCO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053925

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRIME MINISTER
BHUTTO

PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER
BHUTTO:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: THANK YOU FOR YOUR
MESSAGE CONCERNING THE DECISION OF THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO ON ARMS SUPPLIES TO
PAKISTAN AND INDIA. I SHARE YOUR HOPE THAT THIS ACTION
WILL FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN
OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

AT THE SAME TIME, I WILL BE MOST GRATIFIED IF, AS YOU
HAVE SUGGESTED, THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTES TO THE STRENGTHEN-
ING OF SECURITY AND STABILITY IN SOUTH ASIA. THIS REMAINS
THE UNDERLYING GOAL OF OUR POLICIES IN THE SUBCONTINENT.

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I WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO LEARN THAT YOU HAVE

WRITTEN TO PRIME MINISTER GANDHI TO ASSURE HER OF YOUR
GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE SIMLA AGREEMENT. AS
I EMPHASIZED DURING OUR MEETING HERE, THE UNITED STATES
STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE POLITICAL NORMALIZATION TAKING

PLACE BETWEEN YOUR TWO COUNTRIES. I HOPE THAT IN THE
NEAR FUTURE YOU FIND A WAY TO MOVE THIS PROCESS FORWARD
IN SOME CONCRETE WAY SO AS TO ALLEVIATE CONCERNS REGARD-
ING THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OUR ACTION MIGHT HAVE
ON YOUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND ON REGIONAL
STABILITY.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH WE
ACHIEVED IN OUR RECENT TALKS WILL PROVE AN IMPORTANT
RESOURCE IN MAINTAINING THE WARM AND COOPERATIVE RELA-
TIONS WHICH OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE TRADITIONALLY ENJOYED.
I LOOK FORWARD WITH PLEASURE TO THE TIME WHEN I MAY VISIT
YOU IN PAKISTAN IN RESPONSE TO YOUR KIND INVITATION.
SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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To: ISLAMABAD
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